



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs"

Russ Guiney, Director

May 15, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

FISCAL YEAR 2008-09 BUDGET – UNMET NEEDS

In accordance with instructions from the Chief Executive Office, I am submitting the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09 Budget Unmet Needs.

We previously submitted a list of several unmet needs with our FY 2008-09 Proposed Budget. The following are our most critical: 1) The addition of 2.0 FTE positions to enhance DPR's Grant Writing/Reimbursements Unit - \$173,000; and 2) The addition of 9.0 FTE vacant positions to improve lake safety management - \$441,000 for a total of 11.0 FTE positions and \$614,000.

The DPR is aggressively pursuing the County's Strategic Plan Goal of "Fiscal Responsibility." In recent years, grant funding opportunities have increased. The time to capitalize on these opportunities is now. The DPR currently has two (2.0) existing FTE positions to perform grant research, application writing and reimbursement functions. We are requesting the addition of two (2.0) more FTE positions, which will be devoted solely for the same functions. These positions, estimated at total cost of \$173,000, would benefit DPR, the County and result in millions of dollars in increased grant funding.

The Department has identified a safety issue at three of its regional lakes; Bonelli Park, Castaic and Santa Fe Dam. There is a deficiency in the number of Lake Lifeguards, which could potentially result in diminished ability to respond to medical emergencies and boating accidents, decreased public safety presence, and decreased crowd control preventative measures due to inadequate surveillance. Increasing the current lifeguard staffing by nine (9.0) FTE positions (\$441,000), will bring safety at these three lakes up to standards and help meet the County's Strategic Plan Goal of "Service Excellence."

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
May 13, 2008
Page 2 of 2

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our unmet needs as we strive to "Create Community through People, Parks and Programs." I am available to further discuss this request at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Russ Guiney
Director

RG:JW:DM:ram

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Office
Debbie Lizzari, Chief Executive Office
Lari Sheehan, Chief Executive Office
Rochelle Goff, Chief Executive Office
Anthony Baker, Chief Executive Office